



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Founded in 1931

MAY 2022
VOLUME 74, ISSUE 9

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ASTRONOMY SPRING LOOK, A YEAR IN REVIEW

SCOTT THEIS, W2LW, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

David Bishop returns to RARA for a presentation on astronomy news and events. He will be reviewing significant events from the last six months with plenty of high-resolution pictures and perhaps some video. The first image to the right is picture from Curiosity which found a bizarre rock on Mars. The image below is of the Tonga Volcano explosion.

David has presented several times at RARA, and each presentation has been very interesting. Every year remarkable things happen that the national news does not cover, but David tries to find them. You can see the last set of images on the RARA website at:

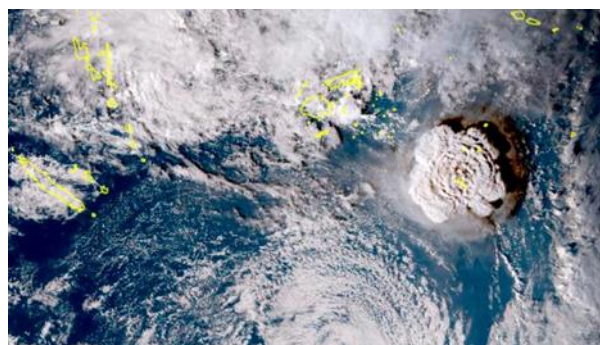
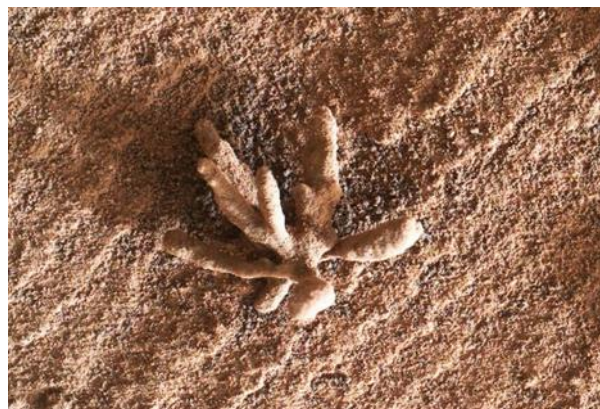
www.rochesterham.org/club_meetings.htm#a_20211006

David is an FPGA designer at L3Harris who is very active in the Rochester Astronomy club. He runs a web page which keeps track of supernova. Asteroid 70401 has been named Davidbishop in his honor.

For those of you who attend in-person, we will be running the raffle and having donuts during the break. Feel free to add stuff to the treasure table or take something. Just remember if you bring it and no one grabs it, you need to take it home.

Please join us on Wednesday, May 4th, 2022, 7:00PM either at the Boy Scouts Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Townline Road, Rochester, New York 14623 or online by registering at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4215386166367362063>



RARA



 YouTube

K2JD

N2EH

W2EOC

FREE VE TESTING

Rochester Hamfest 2022

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY JUNE 4TH 2022

HILTON EXEMPT CLUB, 137 SOUTH AVE. HILTON, NY 14468

FOR MORE INFORMATION

VISIT [HTTPS://ROCHESTERHAM.ORG/HAMFEST.HTM](https://rochesterham.org/hamfest.htm)

NON-MEMBER ADMISSION: \$7 PER PERSON

TALK-IN: W2ARM REPEATER

146.610/444.45 PL 110.9

FREE QSL CHECKING

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I
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E
S

DX Engineering
Gift Certificates
Ham Radio Deluxe
Gift Certificate
QRP Quarterly
Subscriptions
And More

Elecraft
W1 Wattmeter
Tigertronics
USB SignaLink
Buddipole
Antenna
Creality
3D Printer

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BOARDZ BUZZ

PAUL CONAWAY, KD2DO, DIRECTOR

It certainly takes a lot to run an organization such as RARA. Just take a look at our home page [RochesterHam.org] and you will see events of all sorts, training opportunities, the hamfest, the web page itself and this publication, the RARA RAG plus all the membership benefits. That all is just the public face of all the things RARA does. Behind the scenes there are people with skills in management and finance and public speaking and organization and information technology (IT) and publishing and so on that somehow come together to make this fine club work. I never realized how much skill and outright professionalism there is in the leaders you have chosen. My hat goes off to them.

In recent months you have heard us talk about how to run a hybrid meeting with a number of warm bodies in a room while a large number dial in from home. We have thought about the issues, purchased some equipment and have done a pretty good job so far. There are still a few issues like lavalier mics and a better camera etc. but these will be dealt with. Our recent experience with having invited speakers come to us via remote meeting technology, plays well and fits seamlessly with our new meeting format. You can hear and see it all in your pajamas. Last month we had 33 in person and 45 online.

However still there is much to be gained from going to a meeting in person. Like with conventions and seminars, the contacts you make on the side over a cup of coffee or cider and a donut out in the lobby are very important. In our hobby we do talk to a lot of voices, but it is still good to eyeball with those who don't work our favorite band or mode. Also, those donuts and a cup of coffee this late at night are hard to beat. And the best thing about coming live is the raffle. The chance of winning a brand new Whachmacallit or book is absolutely zero for those who only dial in. And have you noticed, the items are getting sweeter recently? The club is committed to maintaining a high standard for meeting presentations and to return to in-person meetings in a way that is safe and comfortable, while still maintaining the on-line presence.

As you will see elsewhere in the RAG, there are several public service events in the months ahead. Look for details on the Tour de Cure, the Lift Bridge Regatta, the Lighthouse weekend and the pumpkin patrol. Even though months away they are being discussed and planned by those who run this club.

Speaking of clubs, RARA isn't the only dance in town. There are many other fine organizations that are devoted to some aspect of Ham Radio. Whether it be Chasing DX or waiting for a DXpedition, RDXA is on top of what is happening on that front. From VHF and UHF on through the really short wavelengths, the Rochester VHF Group can keep you up to date on some unique technology in a field where 30 miles is DX. Did you know that there is a Digital Communications Association of Perinton that has weekly meetings? We are asking someone in each of the many clubs to send us some cool, neat and new stuff about the club, what they have done recently or plan to do. If your club interests you enough to be a member then tell us why. We will publish as much as we have room for and spread the rest out for future editions of the RAG.

Similarly there are groups outside of Rochester that are doing some very interesting things. For example the Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier (ARAST) is

teaching people how to use Winlink. Not only the basics and how it might serve them in an emergency, but also the fine points like "radio only" operation, and designated Mail Pickup Stations. We would love to hear your stories.

While you are looking through the RAG please find details on the Hamfest. Many of you have helped with the hamfest in years past and so know the vast amount of preparation it takes to put it on. It looks like things are well underway for this year. I have even heard they placed a special order with the weather men and women of all the local TV stations to have a nice sunny day for us. (Now that takes real planning.) The Antique Wireless Association has received a generous grant from RARA and an anonymous donor to help fund a mobile educational outreach effort. Using a cargo trailer to transport equipment and supplies, their volunteers will be able to take their education program to schools. Read all about that and the groundbreaking they had for their new Ham Shack in the AWA journal, or maybe elsewhere in the RAG.

The next edition of the RARA RAG will be the last chance to tell us about your Field Day plans. We would like to publish a nice list of who will be out where. Will you have a talk in frequency? What call will you be using? Give us your location using What3Words.com. For example RARA meets at www.what3words.com/port.often.flash Just in case some roaming dignitary or news team wants to drop in.

Happy Reading and 73

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY MAY 4, 2022 - General Meeting In-Person and Online

7:00 PM - AT THIS LINK

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4215386166367362063>

THURSDAY MAY 5, 2022 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting

6:30PM ONLINE

Email request for link to secretary@rochesterham.org

SATURDAY MAY 7, 2022 - Combined RaRa Academy / Elmers Corner Event

SATURDAY MAY 21, 2022 - VE TESTING

10:00AM Rochester Institute of Technology, Bldg 16
Schmitt Interfaith Center, Skalny Room

Saturday June 4, 2022 - RARA Hamfest

Membership – Time to Renew!

- RAG Circulation ~5,000
- RARA Membership ~470
- RARA is the 6th largest ARRL affiliated club
- **Let's make it the largest!!**
- Renew or join [here](#)
- If you have a problem renewing, please email us at:
membership@rochesterham.org



Don't Delay, Renew Today!



EDUCATION

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

RARA LICENSE COURSES

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, License Class Coordinator

We do not currently have plans for license classes in the spring or summer. If you are interested in taking one of our next classes in the fall, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org, and we will put you on the list.

New Technician Question Pool

The current Technician license test is being retired at the end of June and replaced with a new test with new and modified questions. If you've been working on getting your Technician license, now is the time to get serious about it and finish studying for the test and take the test before that deadline. Otherwise, you will have to start over with the new question pool.

Deep Discounts on Technician License Manual

I have one license manual for the current version of the Technician license test available. We are not teaching any more classes before they expire, we are selling it for \$10. You would have to pick up the book in Chili. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

License Manuals

Even though we are not teaching any classes over the summer, we still have the license manuals available if you want to study on your own. The current editions of the General and Amateur Extra license manuals are available to our members at a discount for \$25. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

I usually have some license manuals with me at official RARA events (e.g. the monthly meetings).

RARA ACADEMY

We are having a combined Elmers Corner and RARA Academy event coming up, please see the event specific article in this issue.

Kevin Denton KD2WXS has volunteered to tackle one RARA Academy session (with the option to stay on for more). Please join me in welcoming Kevin to our RARA Education department. You can reach him at academy@rochesterham.org. He is looking for input in what our next Academy session should cover. To make it easy for our members to provide such input, Kevin has created an online survey. Please go to <http://tiny.cc/RaRaAcademySurvey2022> and fill out the survey. If this short link should not work, you can also use this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfe_RvJyAfc2BidWxePLvK1r_CjQosS1PV0Ua6m2zETiyPa-w/viewform

If you are able to actually present such an Academy session, please also get in touch with Kevin at academy@rochesterham.org.

RARA ELMERS' CORNER

Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ

Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ

Elmers Corner Coordinators

Wow, what a great Elmers' Corner we had in April! The April Elmers' Corner was another mix of fun radio topics including SWL reports, antennas, our favorite subject, lots of FT8 Q&A, and AWA membership opportunities. We celebrated Don, KD2WWY upgrading to General license and talked about the RARA Academy coming up on May 7th. You can check it out with the link below.
<https://youtu.be/RLWxn6HXZZE>

Can you believe it is May already! We have the RARA Academy on May 7th, and Rich will be there for an in-person Elmers' Corner. I will be at the POTA table, so if you want to learn more about my favorite part of being a ham, stop by and I'll be happy to answer any of your questions...and if I don't know the answer, I will find the right Elmer to get that answer.

June 4th is the 1st Saturday in June and is the 93rd Rochester Hamfest at the Hilton Exempt Club, 137 South Ave. Hilton, NY 14468 from 7:00AM to 2:00PM. We would like you all to have fun in Hilton, so we will not be having an Elmers Corner.

As you might remember from last year, Rich and I go camping many times during the summer, so we take a break from Elmers' Corner at this time. So we will be seeing you in September, on Labor Day weekend if anyone is around. The 1st Saturday is September 3rd.

We don't want to leave you hanging during the summer, so reach out to us with any questions at any time to: elmerscorner@rochesterham.org, we will do our best to find the right Elmer to answer your question.

Elmers' Corner is for ALL hams! Beginners and experienced hams. Bring your cup of coffee and join us to talk all things radio. We learn new things every month and have fun doing it.

Can't make one of our zoom meetings? That's ok, we record each meeting, so you can watch it whenever you have the time.

September ELMERS' CORNER

1st Saturday of the month
September 3, 10AM – 12PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)
[pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 8467 4667
Passcode: 786545

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (New York)

+13126266799,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kiOoVkCMY>

MORSE CODE TRAINING

DAVE WILSON, WA2HOY, RXCWG COORDINATOR

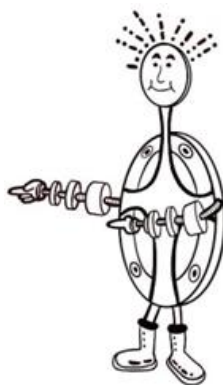
The RXCW Group assists Hams wanting to learn Morse Code or to develop their CW skills.

MORSE CODE COACHING

Request a description of the RARA beginner coaching sessions from pfournia@gmail.com. You learn on your favorite software and on your schedule and pace. You schedule zoom sessions to review your learning approach including QSO scripts and use of your equipment.

MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts code practice for all levels on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm.



Register at: tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

MORSE PRACTICE ON AIR

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts on air practice on Tuesdays at 2PM on 6M at 50.250MHz.

To set up a cw sked, contact

Peter at pfournia@gmail.com or

Tim at tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

New News: The RCXW Group will host a CW Exhibit and Demo table at the RARA May 7th HF Hands on Academy at Black Creek Park. More details about the Academy under Education on the RARA web page.

W1AW Code Practice MP3 Files: <http://www.arri.org/code-practice-files>

W1AW - <http://www.arri.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>

RADIO ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	kdcarlso@gmail.com
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	lawrence.hill@rit.edu
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	wb2sxy@gmail.com
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	dkiser100@gmail.com
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		mikemoore@ieee.org
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	pschuch@rochester.rr.com
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	fshick3@gmail.com
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	dstimmons@gmail.com
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF		verzulli@yahoo.com
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	higreen@rochester.rr.com

W1AW On The Air CW Practice

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast

SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm

FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm

FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

In days of old, when ops were bold
And SSB not invented
Words were passed by pounding brass
And all were quite contented

From Mike, W4MCX
Thanks AA2YV

MAY RAFFLE PRIZES

- Mosley ANT-DIV-80 Antenna
- DXE \$25 Gift Certificate
- Raspberry Pi 4, 2GBR
- CQ Digital Subscription

Coming in September

- TBD

HAM QUIPS

"Field Day In India"



" Our Elephants Come In Very Handy for Field Day Operation".

Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, is a very accomplished ham radio cartoonist and his work appeared previously in the K9YA Telegraph and also appears in the NAQCC Newsletters. His book "HI - HI - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons" is available at www.lulu.com

CW ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	w2ned@frontiernet.net
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	pfournia@gmail.com
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	whopkin4@naz.edu
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	rkarz@rochester.rr.com
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	ag2y@rochester.rr.com
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Kingsland, GA	harryw7872@gmail.com

PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) Tour de Cure starts and ends at the Xerox Campus in Webster on Saturday, June 11. It runs from 6 AM to 4:30 PM. We are seeking help from all area radio amateurs, and I encourage you to sign-up at the [RARA Public Service Page](#) and prepare to participate in this event. There, you can click on the ADA Tour de Cure Sign Up "click" link on the top, right-hand side of the table. This link leads to a Google Form for you to register your participant information. We will guard your personal information and see that it is used only as needed by the event organizers. You will only be identified using your FCC Callsign and first name. Please complete the form and hit "Submit". You will receive a confirmation screen with instructions about radio programming. The following Amateur Operators have signed up as of April 15, 2022 (K2GC, K5KHK, KA1CNF, KB2FSB, KB2NCI, KC2NM, KD2BEC, KD2DNO, W2SBA, W2SKY, WA2FTV). This is a start, but we need several more operators to make the event the success that we want it to be. We very much look forward to working together with amateur radio volunteers from [RARA](#), [SIARC](#), [Drumlins ARC](#), and other area groups.

Changes are coming to the set of pick-up trucks that we use for the event. Stand by for that news when I get more information. The event name in the upper left-hand cell on the public service page is a link for event information which will allow you to see the routes and get more information. The routes are still under development but, they will be basically what was done in the past except for the eastern end of the course will go through Wolcott rather than Chimney Bluffs State Park. If you prefer, you may sign up by contacting the event captain, Mike Moore KC2NM, directly via email at mikemoore@ieee.org.

Our team provides primary communications for this event with sweep operators driving on the course who identify problems on the course and communicate with net control at the command center using mobile radios. SAG (Support and Gear) vehicles can help riders with minor mechanical problems or transport them to rest stops where mechanical help is available. Net Control is located at the command center and coordinates communications using Amateur Radio volunteers and with telephone operators from the ADA. Bill, KD2DNO has wisely suggested that we modify our routes so that we eliminate needless driving where we can. Good idea! We will look at ways to do that. Hams are needed for the sweep, SAG, and Net Control Operations. This event is a chance for us to hone our skills as radio operators in a setting that provides real help to our community. Please consider signing up to help as soon as you can so that we can communicate the route information and other needs.

Orleans County ARC has expressed an interest in the MS ROC the Ride to be held at Lakeside State Park on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022. I will continue to work with them because this event will be held exclusively in Orleans and Niagara Counties. It is my hope that Orleans County ARC will take on the leadership of this event and that RARA members will be participants.

Operating Events

Event	Location	Day	Date
Field Day	Various	Saturday, Sunday	June 25, 26, 2022
ILLW	Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse	Saturday, Sunday	Aug. 20, 21, 2022
JOTA	TBD	Saturday, Sunday	October 15-17, 2021

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming RARA Public Service Events

Event	Location	Day	Date
Tour de Cure	Xerox, Webster	Saturday	June 11, 2022
MS ROC the Ride	Lakeside State Park	Saturday	August 13, 2022
Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta	Canal, Fairport	Saturday	September 24, 2022
Pumpkin Patrol	Bridges of NYS Thruway	Sunday, Monday	Oct. 30, 31, 2022
Holiday Science and Technology Days	Rochester Museum and Science Center	TBD	TBD

YOUR QSO WITH AA2YV/6

MARCH 2022

BILL HOPKINS, AA2YV

Working from California

"Hello, I worked you from Carlsbad, CA, as AA2YV/6 a few days ago last month on CW. Home QTH is Rochester, NY. Tnx for the great QSO. I made 55 contacts over 10 days, using 40, 20 and 17 meters. I set up my Elecraft K1 (with onboard tuner & keyer) and operated from the back patio of a family relative. 73 and CUL." This is what I wrote to some of my QSO contacts. It was once again a fabulous trip away from the winter joys of Western New York.



Carlsbad Ham Shack on back patio

After the cloudy marine layer burned off in sunny SOCAL, it took me most of the afternoon to put up the antenna. The palm tree in the front was a breeze, but that non-native backyard tree opposed me every step of the way. How did I climb those trees? I didn't. I always take an extendable fishing pole with (light!) 12lb. monofilament line to cast a hard rubber sink-stopper completely over each tree and then haul up two light nylon lines. These will hold an antenna for a few weeks, even in strong winds. (I also attached a line to the center insulator for haul-down.)



Feedline and Antenna

Portable Armchair Operation

Getting ready for portable operation any place but home requires good planning and some time. I wouldn't be going to a mountaintop, but "portable" means: don't forget anything, and everything you take has to work. I used a great little hash-free switching supply (Model A-75FAM-12) to power my QRP rig. I fed the signal through a small LDG 1:1 current balun (RBA-1:1) to 39ft. (11.9m) of robust TV antenna twin-lead (300 ohms) up to my 40-meter dipole.

The QTH was about 8 miles northeast of the Pacific Ocean's surfboard waves of Moonlight Beach in Encinitas (hippy heaven). While I couldn't make use of the salt water to lower my signal's angle to the west, I operated close to the peak of a suburban hill which helped a lot. I operated mostly at 6 watts output and sometimes at 7, but I don't think that the mini-QRO made any difference. The paddle I used was a blue 3-D printed model crafted by Forest Shick, WA2MZG (our indefatigable RA-RA RAG editor). It worked like a charm. All my QSOs were recorded in an ARRL Minilog that I began using back in 2004.

How Well Can You Do in the "Bush"?

So how well did I do? I didn't operate all the time – this was a family vacation. First, I easily copied W1AW's code practice sessions. One day an operator at Newington, CT, was making QSOs and pounding in at 599-plus, but she/he didn't hear me in the pile-up. On a Wednesday, as an SWL, I copied (and jotted down) more than 20 States in less than 20 minutes during the CWT 40-meter sprint (including Jon, KL2A in Anchorage; John, KJ7Z in MT; Eric, KR2AA in Staten Island; and Ken, N4KS in FL.). European stations were out there the entire time, including one Russian, apparently freshly transplanted into the Crimea by the looks of his QRZ website.

Let's see. I made QSOs with more than 20 States. I kept notes of all stations I heard and wanted to contact. 40 meters was fun but not as promising as 20. 17 meters was hot as a firecracker. I signed as AA2YV/6 but dropped the slash-6 for DX. Just make the QSO, I said to myself. Did the solar panels on the roof just feet away from the antenna increase or decrease antenna effectiveness? Who knows?

"Big Fish"

On 17 meters between March 21 and 24, I bagged some "keepers." One was with Jerrey, AH6V on the Big Island, who gave me a 529 – must be nice to have no QRN on your Lazy-H antenna. Another was the SwissAir Club, HB90JU, whose callsign celebrates 90 years of the Junkers JU52/3-m airplane (559 sent and rec'd). Mid-day, two hours later, Jose, EA1NE, from Palencia, Spain, gave me a 319, while he was 569. Then an hour later, Bill, VE9OA, from New Brunswick gave a 559 to his 599.

Going for the Prizes

Japan was my most sought-after destination. Just one day after setting up the shack-on-a-folding-table, I headed for 17 meter-land and tuned the band. There



Dutiful Palm Tree -
Antenna is almost invisible

was Taka, JA1KIH, near Tokyo calling CQ (589) and no one was listening! So I called him, and he came right back with a 559 for me. Two days later I QSO'd with Ger, HK7AAG, in Colombia, using grey line propagation (sent 569/recd 549). The day after, Hiro, JG3UVN from Ritto Shiga and I gave each other 559s. Later in the week at about 3 p.m. PDT, I made my third Japan link with Hosono, JH1OCC, from Kashima Ibaraki. He was on the day before. Again he used his hand key, apparently one of his calling cards (579/539).

A Surprise QSO

Boy, was I surprised when Alan Komenski, AC2K, came back to me one evening. He was booming in from Washington State, or so I thought. We gave each other a 599 – I was a long way from the Seattle area, and Grey Line could have helped out. But Alan had moved to Tucson, his new retirement QTH. That explained it. If you're an Old-Timer in RARA, you'll know Alan. What a small world! We've QSO'd several times over the years on CW; his brother is my neighbor, and he has abiding ham-ties here. He sends greetings to Ed Gable, K2MP, Lynn Bisha, W2BSN, and others from his weekly rag-chew group. Alan retired as Washington State's Director of its Communications Interoperability Program.

There were enough opportunities using any QRO rig with my antenna to fill a logbook. I made only some contacts from California but most to OR, WA, NM, CO, AZ and TX. Others were to IL, WV, WI, MA, CT, NC and NJ. I did bag ID and SD and heard ND (how rare!). SOTA and POTA stations could be heard having fun in the Rockies and Sierras, from NORCAL to MT, ID, CO, NM, AZ and TX.

Setting Up and Tearing Down

I stowed everything a day early before shoving off so I wouldn't forget anything. The pull-down of the antenna lasted only 5 minutes. I tightly re-packed my gear in the squarish carry-on bag that fit "beneath that seat in front of you" for the flight home. This time outbound and inbound, the TSA just looked at the X-ray images of the bag and let it pass through. But I stupidly kept my Swiss Army pocket knife – a hammer's friend - in my jeans at San Diego International only to lose it.

The Last QSO

The last QSO I made was with Pete, AA6ZE, in Santa Rosa, northeast of San Francisco. It was a fitting coda to a great run, since Bill Breniman, the founder of the Society of Wireless Pioneers and the man I was named after, lived there in early retirement. Before WWII he hired Rhodes (or Hoppy), my father, into the FAA (then the CAA) back in St. Louis. Dad never became a ham, but he got me going in Morse code.

We have to do this again. More air time – more sunscreen.

AWA SPRING MEET & AUCTION

SATURDAY MAY 7, 2022 — BLOOMFIELD, NEW YORK
MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A HUGE EVENT!



The annual **AWA Spring Meet, Flea Market & Auction** will be held at Veteran's Park in Bloomfield, NY. This is just across the road from the AWA Museum, 6925 State Route 5, just east of the intersection of Routes 5 & 20 and Route 444. AWA will be operating a **Museum Bargain Table** and a large **Museum Book Sale** in the former AWA Annex building located in the park.

As part of the meet, AWA will hold an **Auction** of duplicate and surplus items from the Museum's artifacts. Don't miss it! This auction will be held in the afternoon in the former **AWA Annex**. Payment must be by cash or check. We will not be able to accept credit cards. Auction items will be listed on the AWA web site (www.antiquewireless.org) as they are identified. Watch for updates to the list.

Complete Schedule

7 am - Noon	Open Flea Market , at Veteran's Park
8 am - Noon	AWA Bargain Table & Book Sale , in Annex
10 am - Noon	Antique Wireless Museum open for visitors
8 am - 1pm	Auction pre-view , at the former AWA Annex
1 pm - to end	AWA Auction

Admission for the Day is \$5
Flea Market Vendor Pass is an additional \$7

Because of the special nature of the **Auction**, AWA will not be able to include members' items. Please bring them to the AWA Convention in October!

AWA 2022 CONFERENCE & SELLERS MARKETS

OCTOBER 4 TO 8, 2022

The **2022 AWA Conference** will be held at the **RIT Inn & Conference Center**. Take Exit 46 of the New York State Thruway (I-90), to I-390 North, to NY 253 West, and then NY 15 South. The conference **dual themes** this year are "**100 Years of Car Radios**" and **Evolution of Audio**". Visit the AWA web site (www.antiquewireless.org) for details.

PROFESSOR'S PIC(K)S

JEFF SONSTEIN, WA2RRB

[Flexing Your Muscles](#)

[Learning Guides](#)

[SWL, Spain](#)

[Solar Cell Efficiency Record](#)

LEARNING TO SOLDER

FOREST SHICK, WA2MZG

I will be offering a mentored opportunity to try soldering at the RARA Hands On event in Black Creek Park on May 7, 2022. As time is limited and we will be in a park, in-depth course presentation, demonstration, and hands on learning will be restricted.

What are my qualifications you ask? Good question! I have been building electronic projects for the past 60 years. I started my soldering journey with a Weller soldering gun and a Heathkit shortwave radio. In college, I was the EE Lab tech and taught many students how to solder. During my career as an electronics engineer, I built many prototypes and products. I learned soldering by experimenting, by example and with the help of 3 excellent, excellent, excellent technicians. I will provide some examples of my projects at the event.

NOTE: This article and presentation in the park are based on my experience and my opinions. I will present the techniques I have developed for my soldering journey. What you experience and the techniques you develop may be different.

Please read this article as it provides background information, some do's and don'ts and helpful hints to begin your soldering journey.

Soldering, although a simple process, requires a significant amount of preparatory information, starting with safety.

- Your safety
- Component safety
- Tools
- Supplies
- Technique
- Resources
- Hands On

Your Safety

Here are a few links to web sites with excellent information.

https://safety.eng.cam.ac.uk/safe-working/copy_of_soldering-safety

https://ehs.stonybrook.edu/_pdfs/lab-safety/SAFETY%20GUIDE_Soldering%20Safety_2021.pdf

https://ehs.oregonstate.edu/sites/ehs.oregonstate.edu/files/pdf/si/soldering_safety_si.pdf

In summary:

- You will be handling material that is not meant for human consumption – wash your hands when you are done.
- Do not have food or drink near your work area.
- Avoid breathing the fumes generated during soldering.
- The soldering iron is hot – it can burn you or start a fire
- Melted solder is also hot – wear pants, shoes, and socks to prevent being splashed with drops of hot solder
- Safety glasses are a great idea

Component Safety

This is not a typical topic for a soldering presentation but is important to the success of whatever project you are working on.

Keep your hands and work area clean. Strawberry jam, soda, creams, lotions, and other foreign materials will inhibit proper soldering. Some sensors, typically sensors with a hot sensing element, may be inhibited or degraded by the fumes of some creams and lotions, especially materials containing silicone.

Static protection is a must. You can destroy a component and never know until you power up your project for the first time. Consider some form of static dissipation / protection for you and your work area.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a21aQ9YZPzQ>

<https://blog.mountztorque.com/electronics/how-do-i-eliminate-electrostatic-discharge-in-electronics-manufacturing/>



Pictured is a professional quality solder mat, wrist strap and connection hardware to power ground.

Another option is simply using a cookie sheet - not the one from your kitchen - buy your own. While this is not as reliable, it is an excellent start and definitely better than nothing.

Tools

The following tools are a good place to start. Don't get carried away buying the best of everything. As you refine your skills, refine your tool selection.

Basic Tools

Soldering iron and holder, spare tips, needle nose pliers, flush cutters, bright light, wire stripper, tweezer, vice, cleaning sponge, solder wick.



Helpful Tools

Dental picks, hemostats, different size and shape soldering iron tips, magnifying light, solder sucker, XACTO style knife, DVM.



Supplies

Solder, water bottle, tip cleaning accessories, solid wire, stranded wire, heat shrink tubing, pencil, paper



Technique

There are many good videos and some bad ones – be vigilant. The Collins Lab videos from Adafruit seem to be better than many I have viewed. Here are a few acceptable videos. If you watch carefully, you will notice small discrepancies between each person's method of soldering and / or handling the components.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKbJxytERvg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6rmErwU5E-k>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qps9woUGkvl>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqvHogekDI4>

When soldering or unsoldering, heat is your friend. Time and pressure are your enemy.

You need a sufficiently hot iron to heat the junction and melt the solder. This might be 2 wires, component leads to a circuit board, surface mount devices, etc. You need an appropriate tip size and shape for the connection you are trying to solder. For most projects, a small conical / needle tip will work nicely.

The temperature is usually a constant setting determined by the solder you will be using, leaded or unleaded. Typically for unleaded solder the temperature would be 750F° and for leaded solder it would be 650F°.

Increasing the pressure of the iron against the components you are trying to solder has its own pitfalls. You may break the component. An even bigger problem, you may damage the circuit board. Too much heat and too much pressure may cause the copper trace to come loose from the circuit board and even tear away from the rest of the circuit.

Too much heat has its own problems - damage the component, damage the circuit board, melt wire insulation.

By tinning the tip of the soldering iron, the “excess” solder provides the increased heat conduction path that is necessary to properly heat the compo-

nents and allow additional solder to be added to the joint and flow properly.

Unsoldering or removing a component has the exact same issues. Heat is your friend and pressure is your enemy.

Unsoldering or removing a component is another skill that requires practice. Solder wick is used to absorb the liquid solder from a solder connection. A solder sucker is another method. Both techniques require a bit of practice. Test your unsoldering skills on something you do not want to keep.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_dvf45hN6Y

Resources

Beware of information on the Internet. Some of the information is useless!! The first 2 YouTube videos I watched to include as resources, although they had some good information were, incorrect in a few important areas. There is no guarantee that it is all accurate – this is the internet and anyone can post anything! If it doesn't seem reasonable – question it – ask an Elmer.

This is good reading.

<https://www.instructables.com/Soldering-1/>

Hands On

I will provide supplies so you can experience soldering. I will also have a few FM Broadcast Band receiver kits for \$6 each. They have 16 components, through hole and one surface mount IC.



If you have never soldered, it is worth your time and money to buy an inexpensive project with through hole components to practice on. After that try a project with surface mount components. Buy something that you won't feel bad throwing away.

These projects would also be good to practice unsoldering.

NOTE: Many pictures in this article are from advertisements on the internet.

WINLINK FOR ROCHESTER

PAUL CONAWAY KD2DO

I will start this month's column on the lighter side. I'm looking for someone with some better graphics design tools than Word Art to make a nicer looking logo similar to this.



Preferably ending up in Corel Draw so that I can transfer it to the embroidery function on my wife's sewing machine. I want to put it on my jacket.

The VHF system has been working fairly reliably this month. Except there was apparently a power outage around the first of the month and the system shut down for about 15 minutes. It seemed a lot longer though. The building generators probably kicked in and we had to wait while Windows convinced itself that it was going to be OK and rebooted and restarted the control programs and reset the internet links and all that technical stuff. At any rate it came back to life all by itself. Was this a routine test of the building's emergency power, an April fool prank, or an actual outage, we don't know. But it was a good test of our system. If we had had an Uninterruptable Power Source (UPS) strong enough to keep the computer and the radio operating for ten or fifteen minutes, we would have been able to work through the incident.

The HF system lost its voice for a few weeks. It turns out that a lot of things I ran on that computer had some serious side effects. As one example, trying to bring up FLDIGI sent a command that set the Mic gain to zero. Trying to launch the VARA-Chat application would return the RF power to zero as the program exited. So I spent several days during the bad propagation spell we had, wondering if it just couldn't hear anybody calling in or it couldn't answer back.

It is fixed now and there has been a swarm of users from all over the Northeast as well as many from 4 land and calls from 8, 9 and 0 regions too. The machine is scanning 80m 40m and 20m with good reports on all bands. When this system finally moves up to the penthouse of 111 Westfall Road I may add 30m to the mix. I think the CHA-250 antenna will handle that.

I now have a long 'preflight' check list that spells out what ducks have to be in line. The Kenwood TS-2000 is tricky to set up right but it's a good workhorse I must remember the old Windows 3 mantra "once it is working- don't touch it"

There are about 15 people now that are using the VHF Winlink system on a regular basis.

**Winlink
Workday**

As of early April there have been 12 weekly email messages to those people, asking them to send back a message. This to keep in practice both receiving and sending email by radio. To make things interesting we have added some little challenges along the way. We started with people finding their location in 4 or 5 different coordinate systems. Then we started making distance measurements and area measurements using those coordinates with Google Earth. Now we are moving up to one of the big things in all of Winlink, Standard Forms.

Emergency Communications leaders over the years have produced a set of ICS forms to cover most situations where information needs to be transferred. This means First Responders and their crew leaders all the way up the county leaders at the Emergency Operations Center. The Red Cross has developed special forms for their unique purposes that are standard worldwide. Texas, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii and California have developed their own specialty forms for use with the kind of emergencies that are prevalent (or foreseen) in their areas. For example there are several for LAX airport. These are all built into Winlink and updated regularly so that everybody has the current versions.

The Winlink Workday exercises are intended to get us ready for a possible training drill with local officials and hospitals or the Red Cross wherein the ability to send status reports and requisitions by radio with 100% reliability will be vital.

Nothing has been planned or proposed yet, but I am seeking those of you who can work portable Winlink, or at least mobile, to contact me so we can start scoping out the capabilities and limitations of the local VHF Winlink system.

I would like to hear from adjacent counties. Can you hear the beacon of the 145.03 machine? (now back to 20 minute intervals). Do your ARES or RACES organizations want to use it? Would you be willing to put up a digipeater so that you can have email by radio without all the work?

AWA Receives a Grant from the Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RaRa)

AWA has received a generous grant from RaRa and an anonymous donor to help fund a mobile educational outreach effort. Using a cargo trailer to transport equipment and supplies, the AWA educational program will allow volunteers to take our programs to schools. Given the effects of COVID, constrained budgets, and student security concerns, school systems are becoming less able to bring students to the Museum for educational events, so we are planning to bring our programs to the schools. AWA now has the initial funding and is in the process of developing the program. I will include more on this exciting project as it develops and evolves.

CURRENT AND PAST PRESIDENTS ATTENDING THE APRIL 2022 MEETING



**Back Row L to R: Tim Guyot KB1POP, Frank Schramm WB2PYD, Tim Barrett K9VB, Forest Shick WA2MZG
Front Row L to R: Ed Gable K2MP, Bill Marinucci WB2GHC, Bob Hobday N2EVG**

XARC SPRING FOX HUNT

XARC will be hosting their annual spring fox hunt on Saturday, May 14 starting at 9:00AM. We will be meeting at the Webster Park parking lot on the SW corner of Holt and Lake roads for instructions and rules. All are welcome. Just bring a 2M HT and a desire to learn and wander in the woods searching for transmitters. Check our website (www.xarc.us) for additional details. Rich, K2RAH

MY POTA ACTIVATION CHALLENGE: STATE FORESTS AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

REINER DIEG, N2PEZ

It was Karl Heinz K5KHK's RARA presentation on Parks on the Air (POTA) in January 2020 that got me and my buddy Bob KE0JNC interested in Parks on the Air. POTA contacts require both an activator (someone transmitting from a park) and a hunter (someone who contacts the activator)—although an activator can be a hunter as well. The challenge for the activator is to make at least 10 valid QSOs for a successful activation. For the hunter, it's to contact as many parks as possible.

My POTA gear consists of a Yaesu FT-891, a Chameleon Emcomm III portable antenna, an MFJ-971 portable tuner and a BioEnno 15 Ah battery. A Buddistick serves as a backup antenna. Both antennas do amazingly well and take just a few minutes to set up. The battery, radio and tuner fit nicely on a non-skid mat on my dashboard when the weather precludes setting up a portable table and chair outside.

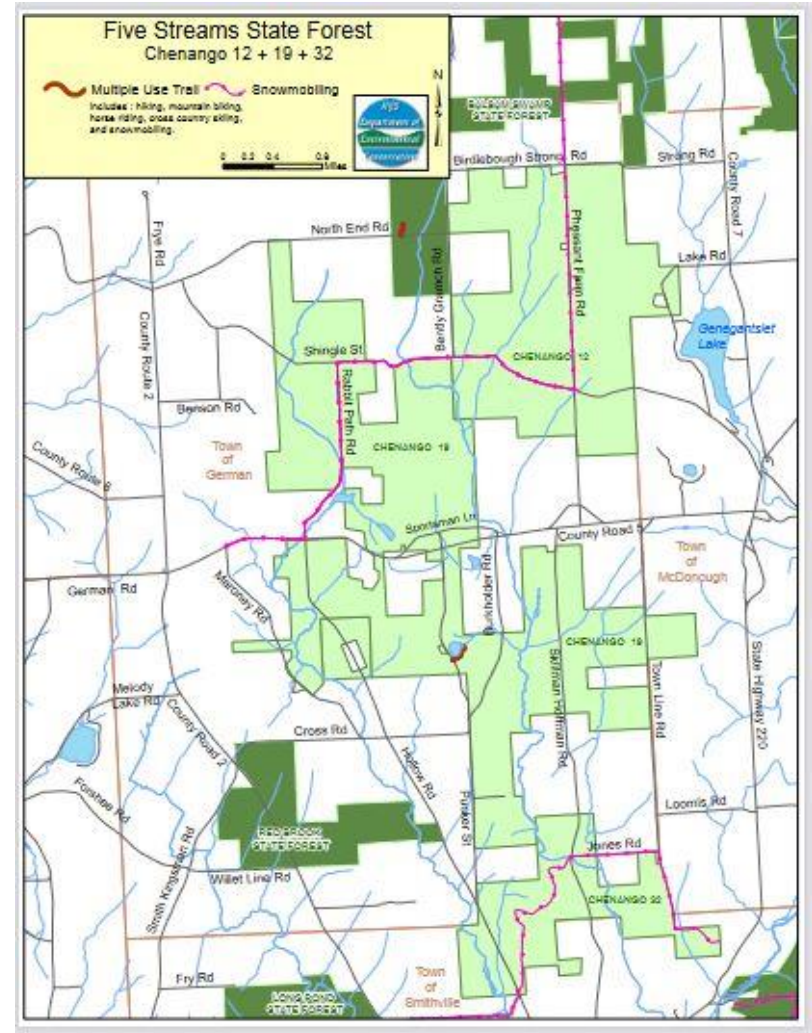
For anyone considering a POTA activation, it helps to know that most of New York's state forests and wildlife management areas (WMAs) are registered POTA sites. The Department of Environmental Conservation publishes excellent web pages for each one, with downloadable maps and advice for getting there. The maps are especially helpful when the state lands are in multiple sections separated by pieces of private property. The downloadable map on your phone will show your current location—even without Internet—while you scout for a good parking spot and maybe a high tree branch.

Among the advantages of state forests and WMAs for POTA are: 1) open all year, 2) free parking, 3) few restrictions, 4) easy social distancing. On the con side: 1) hunting permitted (wear orange), 2) no bathrooms, 3) parking lots serving as the last resting place of various woodland animals.

Using my DeLorme New York Atlas, I found dozens of POTA-eligible forests and WMAs with two or fewer previous activations between the Thruway and the Pennsylvania border. My thought was that hunters would be highly motivated to call me because the park may not soon be activated again. Possibly true. On the other hand, I came to realize that there are probably some good reasons why some sites have never been activated: 1) they are pretty far from any city and common amenities, 2) they are often on dirt roads (and you won't know it until you get there) or 3) they may not be on any road at all. In addition, it's sometimes hard to spot the blue and yellow tree markers identifying state land. The absence of "Posted" signs along a stretch of road is a clue, however. This is where the map on your phone becomes very useful.

(Full disclosure: In park K-5029, my car got stuck in the mud and I got to meet some very kind people. Aside from that, it was a totally successful activation.) Because of the many challenges, I am looking forward to traveling down some new roads and getting more people interested in activating. As with so many other situations in ham radio, every time things go not quite as expected, it's an

opportunity to come up with a workaround and hopefully be better prepared for the next time!



"Am I in It?" – K-5018 – 1 Activation

RArA ACADEMY / ELMERS CORNER HANDS-ON EVENT FOR NEW(ISH) OR NEWLY UPGRADED HAMS AND ANY- BODY INTERESTED IN LEARNING NEW SKILLS

MAY 7TH 2022 AT BLACK CREEK PARK

Are you a new(ish) ham, a newly upgraded ham and need to jumpstart your new hobby, or your new privileges, or are you somebody who wants to learn about something you've never tried before? This event is for you!



Please join us on May 7th, from 11am until 4pm at the Pathfinder Shelter in Black Creek Park in Chili. We will bring a collection of radios, antennas, batteries, and anything else that makes ham radio tick. You can get some hands-on experience with different modes, or different radios. You will be able to ask questions, try new things and walk away with a better understanding of how to operate.

Here are some of the activities we have planned:

- Antenna building (HF and VHF)
- CW/Morse Code
- Digital modes (FT8, Winlink and more)
- Direction finding/Fox Hunting
- APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System)
- Soldering Demonstration
- Portable and QRP operations
- Programming handheld radios (HTs)

We may still have slots left for the HF antenna building workshop, if you are interested in that, please let us know when you register. Also let us know which HT you are bringing that needs to be programmed with the Rochester NY Repeater Listing from the RArA web page: https://rochesterham.org/documents/learn/roc_area_repeater_listing.pdf

Please register by sending an email to education@rochesterham.org and let us know what you are interested in to help us with the planning.

This is a combined Elmers Corner and RArA Academy event: If you have questions about any of the demonstrations, you can ask questions right there, if you have any other ham radio related questions or problems, there is a good chance that we will have somebody there who can help you.

Keep in mind that Black Creek Park has a lot to offer for the rest of your family while you are playing radio ☺ So pack a lunch and bring them along!

STRATEGIES FOR DECENTRALIZED EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM

I recently watched a YouTube video that made me reflect on the type of amateur radio operation that I generally engage in. The majority of my operation is digital voice using a hotspot or repeater that is linked on the internet. These modes rely on an operating infrastructure for communications to occur. While these modes are very convenient, we can envision scenarios where the infrastructure can fail or be destroyed. After watching this video, I plan to add some capability to diversify my operation. The video may be found on the OH8STN Ham Radio Youtube Channel at the following link.

https://youtu.be/eQ0KxUXK_wl

EDITORS NOTE: The presenter completely ignored CW as the most efficient, most reliable, lowest power option for real emergency communications. Also - easiest to homebrew equipment in an emergency.

RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN

20 Years Ago, May 2002

The May meeting, then held at the Henrietta Fire Hall, would have two non-competing activities. I'll let you decide which is the more exciting and eagerly awaited of the two. Number one, election of officers and Board members for the coming year and number two, Old Timers Night brought to you by Ed Gable K2MP. OK, the elections, at least on a time scale, go first and we already know the top dog winner before one vote is cast. No it's not modern politics, it's your forefathers who in 1931, decided the current Vice-President would automatically move into the Presidents slot. And thusly, I am pleased to be the first to present to you your new RARA President, Ms. Marykay Vesco KC2DPG. This issue also published the ever fun to read biographies of all those running for office. Moving to OT night, Ed Gable K2MP/W2AN, Club Historian and then Curator of the AWA Museum, put on an excellent evening by grabbing a few museum exhibits and formed a program titled "firsts." There you could see and touch such wonders as the first transistor radio, the first FM radio, the first cellular telephone and many others. Even the door prizes had a vintage theme to them. Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU (N2PU) finished his multi-part, months long series of articles defining features, programs and scheduled events at the three-day 2002 Rochester Hamfest. The VE Exam sessions became so popular that they had to be scheduled over a two-day period to meet demand. RDXA'er Mike Rundle N1OKL (now N1OKL/4) penned a nicely crafted article telling of and inviting readers to visit the upcoming 2002, RDXA Field Day site held at the Webster Park Campground. The RDXA, fresh off a first-place winning score in 2001, is a good place to visit if you want to see, hear and even operate an award-winning operation. This issue saw another article by Bill Kasperkoski WB2SXY, whose writing is often seen in the RAG depicting various subjects dealing with the promotion of Amateur Radio. In this issue Bill's large one and one-half page article was titled "Simple Things Every Club Member Can do to Promote Amateur Radio." Some of the hints are still valid and worth reading today. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH (sk), wrote to inform local amateurs of the public service events already scheduled for 2002. Some familiar events included: Tour de Cure, Stuart Horse Trials, Walnut Hill Driving Competition, Ginna Drill and the Pumpkin Patrol. We heard from Irv Goodman, AF2K, with an interesting article related to operating experiences with this event centered around achieving Worked All States on the Six Meter Band. I read with interest Irv's discussion of logging Hawaii (KH6) where he told of a portable W6 station operating portable /KH6. It turns out that I, too, worked W6IMO/KH6 for my 50th state on 6 meters at that very same opening. (Ed) Working 6-meter WAS is quite an accomplishment and Irv's Certificate #1142, which was issued in March of 2002, was quite an accomplishment. With regret it was reported that Joseph Gombatto WB2CBX, was reported a Silent Key. There were no Want Ads in this issue and all of the commercial advertisers we found were old friends so to speak, so I selected Glenwood Sales on Hague Street as one of RARA's oldest advertisers.



the RARA RAG

Published by

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Elections And Old Timer's Night — Theme On "Firsts"

Marykay Vesco, KC2DPG

We would like to invite and welcome everyone to attend **Our Annual Meeting** May 3rd, 2002 at 8:00 PM. As usual, our meeting will be held at the Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 E Henrietta Rd. This is a very important meeting for all of our members to be involved in, **election night**. As part of our business portion of the meeting, elections will be held to elect our Officers and our 7 Board of Directors for the 2002-2003 season. In addition, the general members must also determine our dues for the upcoming fiscal year.

After the business portion we would like to welcome you to "Old Timer's Night" brought to you by our very own Club Historian Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN. K2MP is also the Curator for the world class *A.W.A. Electronic Communication Museum* located in Bloomfield, New York. RARA's OT Night has typically been a

(Continued on page 4)

Annual Meeting

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Each year the annual meeting for RARA is held in May. This meeting is used for the purpose of electing the Officers, Board of Directors, and the dues structure for the following year. Therefore it is important for each member to attend this meeting. Not only that, but after the business portion of the meeting you will enjoy the Old Timer's Night being presented by Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN.

The following is a letter that was sent to Peter Fournia, W2SKY from the nominations committee and was read at the April meeting:

All Nominees will submit Bios to RARA RAG Editor.

Officers Nominated:

VP: George Platteter, AA2FO —

aa2fo@rpo.net

Secretary: Bill Kasperkosk, WB2SXY — wb2sxy@arrl.net

Treasurer: Dick Goslee, K2VCZ — rgoslee@rochester.rr.com

Board Of Directors Nominated:

Dale Fravel, N2LWY — n2lwy@arrl.net

Greg Michels, KC2GXV — michels@sigmadyne.com

Jack Tripp, W2JAT — w2jat@arrl.net

Keith Freeberg, N2BEL — kff@frontiernet.net

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH — n2eh@frontiernet.net

Bill Hopkins, AA2YV — whopkins@naz.edu

George Masny, KA2GPJ — ka2gpj@arrl.net

Robert Krenzer, KC2FNE — RLK65@aol.com

Ed Schmitt, KC2ISI — owlshadow@lycos.com

By Laws:

Officers and BOD serve a term of 1 year until the next annual meeting.

Vice President automatically becomes Presi-

(Continued on page 8)

RARA Annual Meeting

May 3, 2002
8:00 PM

Henrietta Fire Hall,
3129 E. Henrietta Rd.

Election Night and
Old Timers' Night
With

Theme on "Firsts"

Presented by
Ed Gable, K2MP and Staff

The May meeting was on the technical side with an interesting presentation by Mike McHugh W2AV, now W2AV/TA living in Turkey. Mike's highly focused field within Amateur Radio was Earth-Moon-Earth communications (EME), also known as moonbounce. Mike, then an engineer with Harris/RF Communications, applied his technical knowledge to building his own complex station as well as amazing friends and his neighbors with a not too subtle, very large multi-element antenna array on top of his Brighton home. The theme of Mike's talk emphasized the fact that moonbounce was possible by the average ham. This writer remembers hearing Mike's tape recordings of that evening and listening to the sounds of his signals as they were reflected off the surface of the moon. News of the upcoming May 15th Rochester Hamfest, to be held at the Dome Arena, also covered the front page. Data subjects were hot this year with programs by Jim Schueckler WA2YZL on Microcomputers for SSTV and Error Free HF Data transmissions by Jerry Dijak W9JD. DX was covered by a report on the KP2A/D Desecheo Island DX-pedition by Barb Sweet WA2KCL and our visiting ARRL HQ staffer was Chuck Hutchinson K8CH, speaking on Solving Interference problems. The ever-popular flea market happened all-day Saturday. A report on the New York State Bill 10233 that would eliminate NYS sales tax on Amateur Radio equipment was written by Rich McCracken KA2CVN. The Bill didn't pass by an embarrassingly large amount. Ed Holdsworth N2EH (sk) (see 20 years ago, above) wrote again on the subject of RARA's Public Service events and urged participation in the: the Susquehannock Trail Pro-Rally, the Victor Pony Rally, the Scotch Bonnett Sailboat Race and the WNY Regional Pony Rally in Victor. AWA Curator Ed Gable K2MP, announced the opening of their museum for the 1982 season. The museum then was located across the street from East Bloomfield's Village Square Park and was open Sundays from two to five p.m. with no admission charge. The Rochester DX Association inserted an article telling of their May 18th meeting held at the Colonial Hotel located at 1129 Empire Boulevard. The current year was unique with the announcements of many rare and/or new counties coming on-the-air in 1982. This instructional meeting was focused on helping new DX'ers learn the skill of DX'ing including propagation, split operations, CW techniques, QSL'ing and more. Tom Rosica (sk) W2GIR, wrote an article defining the benefits and how-to's of operating within the East Coast Amateur Radio Service (ECARS) on 7.250 Mhz. Mark your calendar for the always fun RARA Annual Summer picnic, June 3, at Powder Mill Park. With regret we announce the passing of Darrell Reed AI2I, Isadore Lyman K2HT and Marion Noakes W2UTF. Marion will be remembered for her work on the RARA RAG, some 50 years ago, as the mimeograph operator who hand printed every page in early RAGs. From the Want Ads you would find an unusual item that found Irv AF2K, seeking an Ontario, Canada province callsign plate to complete a continental-wide collection. A commercial advertiser was Radio World, located at the Oneida County Airport in Oriskany, NY, handling ICOM, Kenwood, Yaesu, Drake and other fine Amateur Radio equipment.

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MAY 7th MEETING PROGRAM: MOONBOUNCE (EME)

The May RaRa meeting will feature Mike McHugh, W2AV, and his presentation on EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) transmissions also commonly called moonbounce. The meeting will take place back at our usual meeting place, the basement meeting room of the Eisenhart Auditorium at the Rochester Museum and Science Center. The meeting will start promptly at 8 p.m.

Mike's presentation will not be too technical, but is meant to show that EME is possible for the average ham who wants to do it, not just for the "big gun" homebrew "wizzards". He plans to bring some tape recordings of some actual EME QSOs.

The May meeting is also the Annual Meeting of the corporation as dictated by our Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, and the annual elections will take place. Nominations from the floor will be accepted and solicited.

PUBLIC SERVICE — SIGN-UP NOW!

RaRa will be providing public service communications for the following events this summer. See or contact Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, to sign up. No previous experience is necessary.

- June 12-13 — Susquehannock Road Rally
- June 13 — Victor Pony Rally
- June 19 — Scotch Bonnett Sailboat Race
- July 31 — Western New York Regional Pony Rally, Victor

SILENT KEYS

DARREL WEED, AI2I
ISADORE P. LYMAN, K2HT
MARION NOAKES, W2UTF

Marion was a member of the RaRa RAG staff in the 1950's. She mimeographed the pages of the RAG for many years.

HAMFEST NEWS MAY 15th

Yes, Matilda, there will be a ROCHESTER HAMFEST this year!

Even though publicity and ticket sales got off to a late start this year, there seems to be renewed interest probably due to the settling of the sales tax problem. Also, the Rochester Hamfest is one of the few hamfests where FCC exams will be administered, thanks to Dave Viglione, Buffalo Office Engineer-in-Charge and his staff who are conducting the exams on their own time and at their own expense.

Programming this year includes Microcomputers for SSTV by Jim Schueckler, WA2YZL; Solving Interference Problems by Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH/1 of the ARRL Technical Staff; Error-Free HF Data Transmission by Jerry Dijak, W9JD/2; and the DX-pedition to Desecheo Island (KP2A/D) by Barb Sweet, WA2KCL. There will also be the ARES meeting, the 3rd Annual W2RUF Memorial Code Contest, local net meetings, an NTS meeting and the yearly ARRL Forum.

For the ladies, busses will again run from the fairgrounds to Long Ridge and Greece Towne Malls and a full day of entertainment and activities are also scheduled at the Marriott.

Tickets are \$4 in advance from K2MP and \$5 at the gate (children under 12 are free). Tickets will be available at the May RaRa meeting.

The flea market will be open at 6 a.m. Saturday. There will be NO Friday flea market this year. The Dome exhibits will open at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Talk-in will be provided by the Rochester Radio Repeater Association, Inc. using callsign WA2AAC on N2JC/R, 146.28/88.

PLAN NOW !!!

Annual RaRa Picnic — June 5
Wadhams Lodge, Powder Mill Park
1 p.m. — 5 p.m.

VE TEAM

NO TESTING IN MAY

There will be testing at the Hamfest

Next session is September

Pre-registration is required. Visit:
<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/14612/inperson>
to find the latest session.

Masks and Distancing ARE Required

More information is available on the RARA website:
https://rochesterham.org/license_testing.htm

Applicants must supply their own PPE
(Mask is a minimum), pen, pencil, calculator and
be COVID negative and symptom free

Testing begins at 10:00AM.
Testing is free!

Mark Allen Sr	KD2YUI	G	Scott Czeck	KC1GHT	E
Iain Marcuson	KC2NLD	E	Nicholas Renzoni	KC1PKA	G
Alexander Polge	KD2UJC	G	Steven Young	KD2JFU	E
Noah Hunn	KD2ZHU	T	Alexander Mandal	KD2ZHV	T
Gary Parrett	KD2ZHW	G	Jason Rex	KD2ZHX	T
James Ryan	KD2ZHY	T	Gregory Sapio	KD2ZHZ	T
James Termotto Sr	KD2ZIA	G	A H Wheat	KD2ZIB	T
Hans Witt	KD2ZIC	G			

New licensees' names are in BOLD

RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

May 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 UK/EI DX Contest CW Russian WW Multimode Contest FL QSO Party AGCW QRP Party K1USN Slow Speed Test	2 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SS OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint ICWC Medium Speed Test	3 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test	4 RaRa Monthly Mtg BSA & ONLINE 7pm ROC City Net ~3.840 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest MIE33 Contest Walk for the Bacon Contest	5 RaRa BoD 6:30pm ONLINE ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB Walk for the Bacon Contest NRAU 10m Activity Contest RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting SKCC Sprint Europe	6 K1USN Slow Speed Test RCC Cup	7 AWA Spring Meet 10-10 Contest CW ARI DX Contest 7th Call Area QSO Party IN, DE, New Eng QSO Parties SKCC Sprintathon F9AA Cup, Digi Microwave Spring Sprint
8 K1USN Slow Speed Test WAB 7MHz Phone 10-10 Contest CW ARI DX Contest 7th Call Area QSO Party IN, DE, New Eng QSO Parties SKCC Sprintathon F9AA Cup, Digi	9 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SS OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest RSGB 80M Club Champ, SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test	10 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Week +0ly Test	11 ROC City Net ~3.840 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest	12 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB NRAU 10m Activity Contest RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting	13 K1USN Slow Speed Test	14 Volta WW RTTY Contest CQ-M Int DX Contest Run for the Bacon QRP Contest SKCC Sprintathon 50MHz Spring Sprint Canadian Prairies QSO Party
15 K1USN Slow Speed Test	16 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SS OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test	17 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test	18 ROC City Net ~3.840 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest RSGB 80m Club Champ, Data Walk for the Bacon Contest NAQCC CW Sprint	19 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting Walk for the Bacon Contest NTC QSO Party	20 K1USN Slow Speed Test Dayton Hamvention	21 Dayton Hamvention YOTA Contest UN DX Contest NZART Sangsterr Shield CW
22 Dayton Hamvention K1USN Slow Speed Test EU PSK DX Contest	23 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SS OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test	24 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test	25 ROC City Net ~3.840 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test	26 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB QRP Minimal Art Session RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting Walk for the Bacon Contest RSGB 80M Club Champ, CW	27 K1USN Slow Speed Test	28 CQ WW WPX Contest, CW
29 K1USN Slow Speed Test CQ WW WPX Contest, CW NZART Sangsterr Shield CW	30 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SS OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ICWC Medium Speed Test QCX Challenge	31 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test				

NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® is an amateur radio public service organization based in Monroe County, New York, and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. Monroe County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a program of the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management. We participate in training and emergency exercises so that we can serve other agencies during times of communication failure.



The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month except in July, August, November and December. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

Until further notice, our meetings are via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org.

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM, on the N2MPE 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club callsign is WB2EOC.

There is no net on nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

WEB: www.monroecountyemcomm.org

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.

Twitter @MCARESNY

Severe Weather Alerts: Winter may bring severe weather in the form of heavy snow storms, strong winds, and flooding. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads). We encourage all amateur radio operators to take a free Skywarn TM class offered by the National Weather Service. The schedule of classes can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/buf/skywarn>

Monroe County ARES
George Adams IV, Net Control - cq@k4gwa.net

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

Please check our website for up-to-date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.

All are welcome.

Check our web site: www.rdxa.com.



ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA will be having its regular meeting on May 20th at the Pittsford Town Hall's meeting room. Masks are encouraged. Our new bylaws allow us to use any and all electronic means to communicate with our membership. Future meetings will be held on Zoom and in person or just zoom if our regular meeting place is not available.

Stay tuned to our web site, www.k2rra.org for current information on any changes to our meeting place or meeting presentation subject. At this meeting we will be taking nominations for the club officer positions of Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Chairman and Vice President. All members are encouraged to attend. We are actively looking for a new club Secretary.

The current officers for 2022 are, Bob Shewell - N2HJD - President, Bob Odell - N2BZX - Vice President, and Bob Smith - NS2B-Treasurer / Membership Chairman. RRRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site using PayPal. www.k2rra.org

XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club is not having in-person meetings at this time. We are having online meetings usually on the second Thursday of the months Sept-June. Get the latest updates at <http://xarc.us>

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

You are invited to join us on-line & on-the-air! We're here to help you to use the license that you worked so hard to get.



Check out what we do by visiting our website at <http://RVHFG.org> to start.

Join our e-mail group by sending a message to RVHFG+subscribe@groups.io.

**Join our weekly on-the-air nets on SSB:
2 meter band - Monday 9 PM 144.260 USB
6 meter band - Thursday 9 PM 50.200 USB**

**No VHF SSB radio (yet) to join the nets?
Log-in to Echolink [ka2ene-L #23426](#)**

We can help to answer the question, "What radio should I buy?" Here's a list of HF+++ radios, those with the HF bands and at least three VHF bands, giving you access to all sorts of VHF fun. Research each one to see which serves you best. Ask questions on our email list. We're here to help!

Yaesu FT-100D	Yaesu FT-817	Yaesu FT-818
Yaesu FT-847	Yaesu FT-857	Yaesu FT-897
Icom IC-706MKIIG	Icom IC-7000	Icom IC-7100
Icom IC-9100	Kenwood TS-2000	

Some are older models and some are newer models, but all provide access to the 6 meter, 2 meter, and 70 centimeter bands using both traditional FM and the exciting narrow-band SSB mode that supports unexpectedly long-distance (100's of km's routinely and 1,000's of km occasionally) VHF communication. These are good all-around radios no matter what club you end up affiliating with later. We hope its us.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

Currently, ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Emergency Communications Center on Harris Hill in Big Flats, next to the National Soaring Museum. Our Chemung County ARES (CCARES) organization meets the first Tuesday of the month except February at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler counties in New York and Bradford and Tioga counties in Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings.

NOTE: Both CCARES and ARAST monthly meetings are now being held both in person and online. Check out the Upcoming Events at our website, www.arast.info, for the latest details.

We will be holding Field Day on June 25-26 at our newly renovated location on Harris Hill. If you're in the area, stop in, enjoy the view of gliders taking off, and enjoy the many possibilities of the adjacent park.

Once again, we will be holding the Elmira Hamfest on September 24 of this year. Advance tickets may be purchased online at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/hamfest.php and they will be mailed out early in September.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. N3AQ 147.36(+) and the W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal 2-meter repeaters. The latter can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters that can be heard in the Twin Tiers area surrounding Chemung County can be found at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php.

We also invite you to check out our new 6-meter net on Wednesday evenings at 9 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz USB. The net usually lasts approximately one hour. Operators are encouraged to check in and participate in the round table discussions or simply stop by from time to time. Topics are wide-reaching and are not confined to 6 meters--although discussions tend to center around 6-meter equipment, antennas, propagation, latest band openings and grid squares worked, as well as AM, FM and FT-8 use of the 6-meter band. We would welcome more participation from the western part of our area.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7PM. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30PM on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in!

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communication modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and publicly accessible DSTAR hotspots, Yaesu System Fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR systems through repeaters and personal hotspots. DCAP members meet for breakfast at 7AM nearly every Saturday morning at Rikki's Family Restaurant in the village of Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL tone of 110.9Hz.

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Wayne County EMO/Sheriff's Office 7376 State Hwy 31 #1000, Lyons, NY 14489. Doors open at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Announcements will be made on the 146.685 repeater. The Drumlins ARC website address is <http://drumlinsarc.us/>

KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

Hello from Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association. We have had a cold snowy winter this year and been very busy with ARES snow reports during the storms. Winter Field Days was held at the Campbell Rest area on Route 86. Our banner was hung up so all could see who we are. At one point a young person saw the antenna in the yard and asked his dad what it was. They walked over and our operator was happy to share their knowledge. It is always a wonderful thing when you can share Amateur Radio with others especially young people. They are our future. Some of our members stayed home but fun was had by all. Since it was bitter cold lots of hot coffee and cocoa was on the menu.

We are working on a Hamfest scheduled for April 30th at the Almond Community Center. Free admittance and small fee to set up a table. Pancakes, sausage, doughnuts, and coffee are on the menu for donation. Contact W2RMT Rick Torrey for more information or email KLARA and I will make sure he gets the email. VE testing will be offered that afternoon.

Join in on our Monday through Friday morning HF net. 8:30 is check in time with net starting at 8:45 on 3.896. It generally lasts about an hour starting with introductions in a round robin format then onto whatever topic anyone wants to discuss.

Sunday mornings we also have the same net check in at 8:30 net starts 8:45.

Sunday evening at 8pm is our 2-meter net on the KLARA repeater system and Echolink. Check in and join us for trivia.

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00PM, meeting starts at 7:30PM. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome. Program topics vary from month to month.

The club has an open two-meter net every Tuesday night at 9:00PM local time on the club repeater, WA2DQL/R (145.27 -600KHz offset, 141.3 tone). Everyone is welcome to check in.

See the club website <http://ocarc.us> or contact club Secretary Ron Craig, N5BNO for more information.

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club and meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 11th. There will be license exam testing starting at 6:30 PM.

SIARC is also holding a Health and Welfare NET Monday through Friday each week at 2000 hours on the SIARC 146.820 repeater (located in Canandaigua, NY), Tone 110.9. This net is to pass along general information and keep hams in touch. All hams are invited to participate .

Check the SIARC website for updates. <http://www.siarc.us/>

GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Email n3dsp@lafireline.net for details.

INTERLOCK ROCHESTER - K2HAX - ROCHESTER'S HACKERSPACE

Visit our website at <http://www.interlockroc.org/>,
contact us at info@interlockroc.org,
or find us in #interlock on Freenode IRC.

ROCHESTER MAKERSPACE

For more information visit <https://www.makerspacerochester.org/hamradio>

ASTRONOMY SECTION ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

For more information visit <http://www.rochesterastronomy.org/>

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<https://elecraft.com/>

QRP Quarterly

QRP Amateur Radio Club
International

www.qrparci.org



www.tigertronics.com



<https://heilhamradio.com/>



www.mfjenterprises.com



www.n3fjp.com

ALPHA ANTENNA

<https://alphaantenna.com/>



<https://www.buddipole.com/>



<https://cometantenna.com/>



[https://
www.easywayhambooks.com/
index.cfm](https://www.easywayhambooks.com/index.cfm)

RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

OFFICERS

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Club Historian	Ed Gable, K2MP	egable@rochester.rr.com	Public Service	Mike Moore, KC2NM	publicservice@rochesterham.org
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Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Steve Benton, WB2VMR: sbenton2@rochester.rr.com

XRX Amateur Radio Club

Brian Donovan, K2AS: k2as@outlook.com

JUNE RAG DEADLINE
MAY 15, 2022

RARA MEETS AT 7PM ON THE FIRST
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

JOIN US IN PERSON
OR
ONLINE AT:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4215386166367362063>

CONTACT WEBMASTER@ROCHESTERHAM.ORG FOR SUPPORT

Rochester Area Repeater Listing
THE RARA RAG

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